

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 118572 TOSEC 010141

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, GR, TU, CY

SUBJECT:GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS

FOR HARTMAN FROM LAINGEN

1. KUBISCH HAS REPORTED ON HIS TALK WITH STAVROPOULOS AND BITSIOS (ATHENS 3736 AND 3738) WHICH WE HAVE REPEATED TO PLANE. IMPRESSION OF BITSIOS-CAGLAYANGIL MEETING FROM ALL SOURCES IS THAT GREEKS ARE MUCH LESS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT RESULT THAN ARE TURKS.

2. POSITIVE RESULT IS THAT DIALOGUE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND PRIME MINISTERS WILL APPARENTLY BE MEETING IN BRUSSELS.

3. THERE WAS, HOWEVER, NO AGREEMENT ON ESSENTIALS. TURKS STILL WISH TO NEGOTIATE WITH GREECE AN AGREEMENT ON CONTINENTAL SHELF WHILE GREEKS WISH TO SUBMIT ISSUE TO INTERNATIONAL COURT.

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4. ON CYPRUS, CAGLAYANGIL APPARENTLY GAVE BITSIOS EXPLANA-

TION OF COMPLICATED WAY IN WHICH TURKS WOULD HAVE TO APPROACH A SETTLEMENT SIMILAR TO WHAT YOU WERE TOLD LAST MONTH IN ANKARA. HENCE, BITSIOS GOT NO INDICATION OF TERRITORIAL SETTLEMENT IN EXCHANGE FOR GREEK ACCEPTANCE OF BIZONAL CONCEPT.

5. ONLY ITEM ON WHICH EARLY AGREEMENT APPEARS POSSIBLE IS REOPENING OF AEGEAN AIRSPACE THROUGH SOME KIND OF COMPROMISE ON FIR'S.

6. CAGLAYANGIL SPOKE TO BITSIOS OF A MEETING OF TOP TURKISH LEADERSHIP ON MAY 24 WHICH WILL APPARENTLY DISCUSS TURKISH POSITIONS ON SUBJECTS RAISED IN ROME, PARTICULARLY CYPRUS.

7. REASONS WHY TURKS ARE PUBLICLY MORE UPBEAT THAN GREEKS FOLLOWING ROME MEETINGS COULD BE THEIR ATTENTION TO WORLD PUBLIC OPINION, PARTICULARLY US CONGRESS, THEIR DESIRE TO KEEP GREEK-TURKISH DIALOGUE GOING TO AVOID INTERNATIONALIZING ISSUES, AND THEIR NEED TO GAIN TIME WHILE SOME KIND OF PACKAGE CYPRUS POSITION IS NEGOTIATED WITHIN TURKISH GOVERNMENT AND WITH OPPOSITION. INGERSOLL

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